THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING DESCRIBING PICTURE TO IMPROVE STUDENTS’ SPEAKING SKILL IN DESCRIPTIVE TEXT
(An Experimental Research at the Eighth Grade Students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang in the Academic Year of 2010/2011)

A Final Project

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Islamic Education
In English Language Education

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MOTTO

الصَّبْرُ مُفَاتَحُ النَجُحِ

“Be PATIENT is key of SUCCESS”¹

سَلَامَةُ الأَنْسَانِ فِي حَفْظِ الْلِسَانِ

“The SAFETY of human is who could guard their SPEECH”²

إِنْ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرَا

“Verily, a long with every HARDSHIP is RELIEF”³

---

¹ Aidh Bin Abdullah Al-Qarni, Jadilah Wanita Yang Paling Bahagia Wahai Kaum Wanita Jangan Bersedih, (Bandung: Irsyad Baitus Salam, 2005), p. 34.
² Ibid., p. 56.
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

- Beloved mother, Ibu Yatmiati and beloved father Bapak Ali Sugianto,
  You are the best supporter for the researcher.
- All the researcher’s big family, elder brothers, sisters and nephew,
  Mas M. Faisa Riza, S.E and his wife Mbak Eny Puji Rianti, S.Pd,
  Mas M. Yauma Izza, S.E and my beloved nephew Enriz Nayla Shafa
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  been completed.
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All the praises belongs to the king of life Allah SWT, the most merciful and the most graceful until this thesis can be completely finished. The effectiveness of using describing picture to improve students’ speaking skill in descriptive text (An experimental research at the eighth grade students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang 2010/2011 Academic Year) is a thesis for readers who want to know the effectiveness of using describing picture to improve students’ speaking skill in descriptive text. Describing picture is one of technique/method that can be used in teaching learning process especially in the teaching of speaking in descriptive text. It can help students to build their confidence and give them idea to what they should say when they must describe something. For teachers, the use of describing picture can help the students more easy to describe something using English.

The researcher realizes that she can not complete this thesis without support, cooperation, help and encouragement from a lot of people. Therefore, the researcher would like to extend her appreciation to all of them, especially to:

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Finally, the researcher realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect; therefore, the researcher will happily accept constructive criticism in order to
make it better. The researcher hopes that this thesis would be helpful and beneficial to everyone. Amen

Semarang, 6 Desember 2010
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ABSTRACT


Keywords: Effectiveness, Describing Picture, Speaking, Descriptive Text, and Experimental Study.

Background of this study is an effort to know which technique is suitable to use in teaching speaking. Teaching a foreign language is considered to be one of the most challenging teaching practices. In Indonesia, students are usually afraid of joining foreign language classes. They may feel unmotivated, discouraged easily. Their mindsets say foreign language is difficult to learn because most of them know nothing from the start. Usually, students know nothing how to express what they want to say. Students who have learned English for several years have not been able to communicate used English. So the researcher thought that there should be a solution to cope with that problem. The researcher tried to use describing picture as a method to improve students’ speaking skill especially in descriptive text.

This study is about the use of describing picture as technique/method to improve student’s speaking skill in descriptive text of the eighth grade students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang in the 2010/2011 academic year. The statement of the problem in this study is; how effective is describing picture to improve students’ speaking skill in descriptive text at the eighth grade students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang? The objective of the study was to know the effectiveness of using describing picture to improve students speaking skill in descriptive text at the eighth grade students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang in the academic year 2010/2011.

The population of the research was the eighth grade students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang. The research methodology was an experimental research, which conducted in two classes; the experimental group (VIII A) and control group (VIII C) as sample. The VIII A was taught by using describing picture, while the VIII C was taught without describing picture (Direct Method). The writer gave speaking test to gather the data. The test had been tried out to find out the validity, reliability, difficulty level, and discriminating power before it was used to gather the data. The formula that was used to analyze the data was t-test. It was used to determine whether or not there was a significance difference between students’ score in experimental group and students’ score in control group.
After the data had been collected by using test, it was found that t-test was (4.348), whereas the t-table was (2.01) for $a = 5\%$. The t-test score was higher than the t-table ($4.348 > 2.01$). It was meant that $H_a$ (alternative hypotheses) was accepted while $H_0$ (null hypotheses) was rejected. Since t-test score was higher than the t-table, describing picture was effective technique/method in improving students’ speaking skill in descriptive text at the eighth grade students of SMP H. Isriati Semarang.
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